

# Executive Proclamation

## State of South Dakota

### Office of the Governor

*Whereas*, A campaign has been launched by the National Association for Music Education (MENC) in an effort to re-teach America *The Star Spangled Banner*; and,

*Whereas*, The MENC is leading this National Anthem Project and First Lady Laura Bush is serving as the Honorary Chairperson; and,

*Whereas*, The National Anthem Project was launched on the heels of a recent Harris Poll that indicated two out of three Americans do not know the words to *The Star Spangled Banner*, and many Americans are unaware of the historical events that inspired this piece to be created from the poetry of Francis Scott Key; and,

*Whereas*, The study of American heritage through music inspired by important moments in our nation's history is basic to a complete education and the future of our country and its citizens; and,

*Whereas*, School music education ensures that students learn to take pride in all for which our nation stands through the use of songs that teach the history and heritage of the United States; and,

*Whereas*, The study of music provides increased opportunities for valuable educational experiences, engages students in individual and group activities, develops creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking skills; and,

*Whereas*, One of the events planned for this project is the National Anthem Road Show tour that will make a stop at Garretson, South Dakota, on June 13, 2006, and continue on to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on June 14, 2006, and brings with it many music-related, educational activities:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 13 and 14, 2006, as

## NATIONAL ANTHEM PROJECT DAYS

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens of South Dakota to recognize and commend local music teachers and the MENC for their commitment to enhancing the quality of music education in our schools.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.



*M. Michael Rounds*  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

*Chris Nelson*  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State